Sick Industries in Public and Private Sectors

2076. DR. SHANTI G. PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of sick industries both in public and private sectors for every year during the last 3 years and what is their viable and non-viable conditions; and

(b) what is the total investment in the non-viable units showing separately the amount invested by the public financial institutions in viable and no-viable units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. According to the latest available data from it, the number of sick industrial units and the amount outstanding against them from December 1982 to December 1984 are es under:—

As the end of	No. of sick industrial units	Outstanding amount (Rs. crores)
December, 1982	60,173	2,585
December, 1983	80,110	3,101
December, 1984	93,282	3,638

The sector-wise information on sick units showing the investment in viable and non-viable units separately is neither furnished by the Reserve Bank of India nor centrally maintained in this Ministry.

Prices of LPG

2077. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of LPG had to be raised due to uneconomic return on filling and if so, what is the break up of cost and retail price of LPG cylinder three years ago and at present;

(b) whether the rise in cost of production was verified by cost accountants; and

(c) whether it is a fact that nearly Rs. 2 crores worth of gas is being flared every day for want of equipment costing hardly Rs. 50 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Natural Gas which is different from LPG is flared as it cannot be compressed and stored economically like LPG and the imputed value of the quantity flared is reckoned currently at about Rs. 30 crores per annum only.

Power Generation in Bihar

2078. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is neglecting Bihar in the matter of installation of capacity and supply of energy as a result of which Bihar which was one of the leading